Archie 65TH ANNIVERSARY

THE WAY PAST "X"-CELLENT COMIC!

READY, SET, GO!

#20

$2.25 US

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

SONIC X™

WANNA RACE?

DIRECT EDITION

FOLLOWING AN EXPLOSIVE BATTLE WITH THE EVIL DR. EGGMAN, SONIC THE HEDGEHOG AND HIS HEROIC FRIENDS WERE BLASTED AWAY FROM THEIR HOME TO AN ALTERNATE EARTH IN ANOTHER DIMENSION... UNFORTUNATELY, EGGMAN CAME ALONG FOR THE RIDE! NOW, SONIC AND THE OTHERS MUST DEFEND THEIR NEW HOME OF STATION SQUARE FROM THEIR EGG-SHAPED NEMESIS IN...
SPEED LINES!
WRITTEN BY JAMES MCDONOUGH & ADAM PATYK
PENCILLED BY DAVID HUTCHISON
INKED BY TERRY AUSTIN
LETTERED BY PHIL FELIX
COLORED BY JOSH RAY
COVER BY PATRICK "SPAZ" SPAZIANTE
EDITOR: MIKE PELLERITO
MANAGING EDITOR: VICTOR GORELICK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: RICHARD GOLDWATER
NOW, IN EGGMAN'S HEADQUARTERS...
WHY?!
SPECIAL THANKS TO SEGA: ROBERT LEFFLER & DYNA LOPEZ AT SEGA LICENSING AND SEGA STUDIO USA

WHY?!
WHY?!
WHY?!
WHY?!
WHY IS THAT... THAT WRETCHED HEDGEHOG ABLE TO FOIL MY PLANS EACH AND EVERY TIME?
OF COURSE! SONIC ALWAYS WINS!
..."ALWAYS WINS"?!
WHY, YOU UNGRATEFUL BUCKETS OF BOLTS! I'LL HAVE YOUR--
THIS IS SCARLET GARCIA COMING TO YOU LIVE FROM STATION SQUARE, WHERE AN EMPTY CITY TROLLEY HAS ACCIDENTALLY LOST CONTROL!
BOCOE, DECOE--MOVE ASIDE, YOU TIN-PLATED TWITS!
OFFICER SAM SPEED IS ON THE SCENE...
...ALONG WITH STATION SQUARE'S FASTEST HERO--

--SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!

WHY, THAT LOUSY, NO-GOOD--

SAM!

SAM, YOU'VE GOT TO SLOW DOWN!

NO DEAL, DAWN! I'VE GOT A RESCUE--

YOU'RE PUSHING YOUR CAR TOO HARD-- YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT IF YOU DON'T LET THE ENGINE COOL DOWN.

YOU'VE GOT TO STOP!

AND LET THAT HEDGE-HOG BEAT ME AGAIN?!

I DON'T THINK S--

WHAT WAS THAT?!

CLANK!

CRASH!

Whoa... WHAT A RIDE...

BEEP BEEP!
SAM!
ARE YOU OKAY?!

MY CAR'S TRASHED-- LITERALLY.
I WARNED YOU THAT--
I'M FINE.
I'M JUST A LITTLE SHAKEN UP, IS ALL...

HURRAY FOR--
...NOT TO MENTION A LOT EMBARRASSED.

..SONIC!
Errr... Uh... SORRY, DR. EGGMAN.
I DIDN'T MEAN TO GET SO EXCITED... I THINK I MIGHT HAVE HAD A BIT TOO MUCH CANDY...
A SUGAR HIGH, eh?
I'VE GOT JUST THE REMEDY FOR THAT.
Ulp!
WE JUST NEED TO BRING YOU BACK DOWN TO EARTH!
NOOOOOOO!
ZIP!
NOW, WHERE WERE WE?
WE WERE JUST APOLOGIZING FOR DISTRACTING YOU, OH, MAGNIFICENT SIR!
YEAH, WE DIDN'T MEAN TO ANNOY YOU WITH OUR LOVE OF REALITY TV.
OH, ON THE CONTRARY, MY METALLIC MINIONS, THIS LITTLE DIVERSION...
...IS JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED!
BWAH-HA-HA!

YOU DID IT, SONIC! YOU SAVED THE DAY AGAIN!

HEY, WHAT CAN I SAY, CHRIS? SAVIN' THE DAY IS WHAT I DO BEST!

LET'S CELEBRATE! WHO'S UP FOR ICE CREAM AT MY HOUSE?

I'LL RACE YOU THERE, BUDDY!

THIS STINKS!

WELL, THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE SAFE. IT COULD'VE BEEN A LOT WORSE.

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!

HEY, DON'T TAKE IT OUT ON THE CAR!

WHUMP

THE CAR?! IF IT WASN'T FOR THIS POORLY MAINTAINED HUNK OF JUNK--

HUNK OF JUNK?! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH TIME S-TEAM PUT INTO THAT CAR?

IF YOU HAD JUST LISTENED TO ME IN THE FIRST PLACE, YOU WOULDN'T BE IN THIS MESS!

YOU KNOW, LATELY YOU'VE BEEN ACTING LIKE A REAL JERK, SAM, AND YOU CAN'T BLAME THE CAR-- OR SONIC-- FOR THAT!

I THINK YOU CAN WAIT FOR THE TOW TRUCK BY YOURSELF. PAUL AND I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT TO HELP AT THE REFINERY, ANYWAY.

MAYBE YOU'LL HAVE TIME TO THINK ABOUT WHAT IT WAS LIKE WHEN WE WORKED AS A TEAM.

SCREECH!

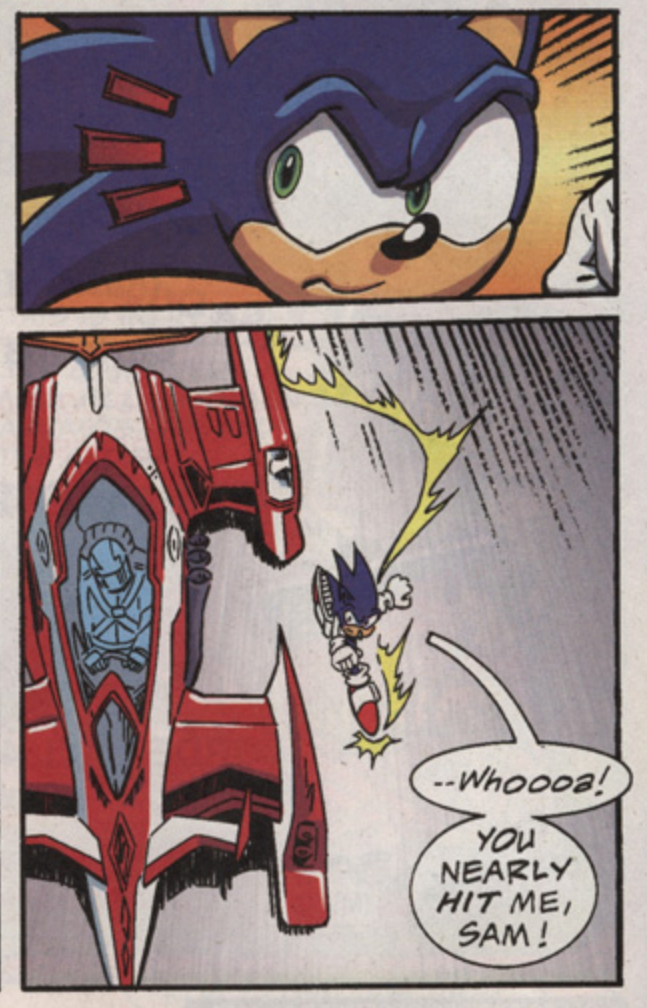
ONE SIDE!
MAKE WAY!
SKREEE!
Whoa!
WHO ARE YOU?
WHY... EH... I'M A CONCERNED CITIZEN AND FELLOW SPEED FREAK--ROBBIE NICK, AT YOUR SERVICE. MY MONSTROUS GARAGE ORGANIZATION HAS GOT QUITE THE OFFER FOR YOU, MR. SPEED.
AN OFFER?
YES. WE'RE BIG FANS OF YOUR DO-GOODING WAYS, AND WE'RE TIRED OF SEEING YOUR TEAM'S SHODDY WORKMANSHIP COST YOU RACE AFTER RACE AGAINST THAT SECOND-RATE EXCUSE FOR A HERO, SONIC!
WE WANT TO BUILD YOU A CAR THAT WILL LET YOU TAKE BACK THE TOP SPOT IN STATION SQUARE!
YOU DO WANT TO BE THE FASTEST HERO ON THE HIGHWAY AGAIN...
...DON'T YOU?
ALL RIGHT, I'LL DO IT.
THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR!
GET IN AND WE'LL TAKE YOU TO OUR HIGHLY ADVANCED FACILITY...

MONSTROUS GARAGE
THIS IS YOUR "HIGHLY ADVANCED FACILITY"?
WE PUT THE VALUE-LESS PIECES OF GREEN PAPER WHERE THEY REALLY MAKE THE DIFFERENCE...
...INSIDE!
I HOPE YOU'RE PUT-TING WHATEVER YOU SAVED ON RENT INTO YOUR EQUIP-MENT.
OF COURSE. MEET MY MECHANICS...
BO AND DEE, THE FINEST PIT CREW IN ALL OF STATION SQUARE! PERHAPS THE FINEST IN THIS WHOLE MISERABLE DIMENSION!
Ahem, EGGMAN, SIR, I THINK YOU SHOULD STICK TO THE SCRIPT AND CUT THE AD-LIBS.
JUST GIVE ME THE PLANS, BOCOE! ALL THIS SMILING IS MAKING MY FACE FEEL LIKE IT'S GOING TO BREAK IN TWO!
WHERE'S THIS CAR YOU MENTIONED?
Um, THAT LOOKS LIKE A PILE OF JUNK.
WHY, RIGHT THERE! AFTER A FEW MODI-FICATIONS, OF COURSE!
WHAT'S AN "AD-LIB"?
Shhh!
THAT JUNK WILL SOON BE THE MOST ADVANCED--AND FASTEST--VEHICLE YOU HAVE EVER SEEN!
MATTER-CONVERSION SPECTROMETER? CHECK. TRI-ALLOY CRANKSHAFT? CHECK.
Uh... THINGA-MAWHATSIT? CHECK.
PARTSO-WHATEVER? CHECK.
SOON...
VZZZ VZZZ!
I BELIEVE THE PATIENT IS ALMOST READY.

WELL? HOW DID IT GO?
I'M AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO BE THE JUDGE OF THAT...
... WHEN YOU MEET THE SPEED 5000!
THIS IS INCREDIBLE!
--THE SAPPHIRE SEA REFINERY IS SENDING AN URGENT S.O.S.--ALL AVAILABLE FIRE RESCUE UNITS, PLEASE RESPOND.
BUILT-IN COMPUTERS MONITOR ALL EMERGENCY BROADCASTS, AROUND THE CLOCK!
Huh?
THE REFINERY IS WHERE THE S-TEAM WAS HEADED! I'VE GOT TO GO!
SURE, WHY NOT? GIVE IT A TEST DRIVE!
YOU ARE STATION SQUARE'S NUMBER-ONE HERO, AREN'T YOU?
THAT'S RIGHT! I WON'T LOSE THIS TIME!
BOKKUN ACTUALLY DID IT! THAT FIRE HE SECRETLY SET WILL BRING SONIC AND ALL HIS LITTLE FRIENDS RUNNING JUST LIKE THAT GREEDY IDIOT SAM SPEED...
...AND THEN THEY'RE MINE!

ON THE REFINERY...
DID THE RESCUE SIGNAL GO OUT?
I--I THINK SO! HOPEFULLY...

"...SONIC WILL GET IT!"
YOU HEARD THE MESSAGE--THERE'S TROUBLE AT THE REFINERY!
COME ON, TEAM! READY, GO--

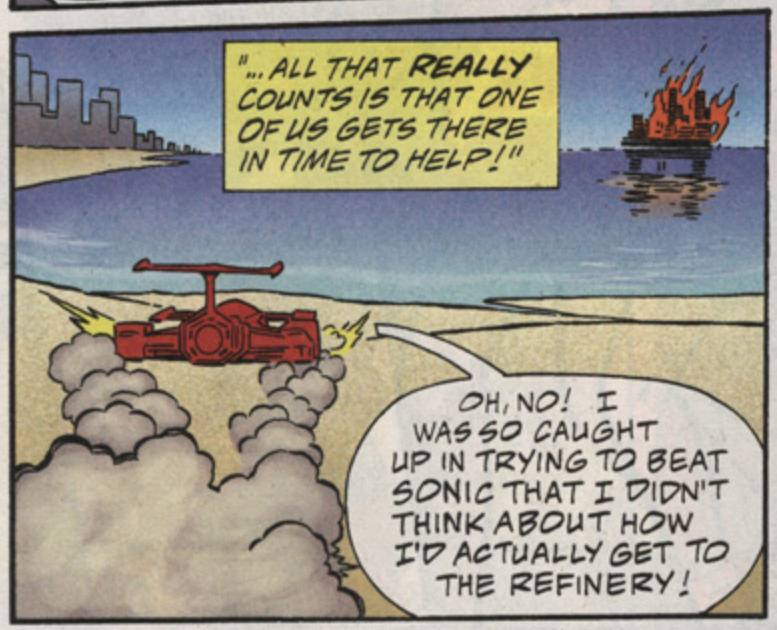

--Whoooa!
YOU NEARLY HIT ME, SAM!

SORRY, SONIC--YOU WERE MOVING SO SLOW THAT I ALMOST DIDN'T NOTICE YOU. YOU READY FOR A REMATCH?
IF IT GETS OUR FRIENDS RESCUED QUICKER, I'M ALL FOR IT!

THEN LET'S DO IT!
I'LL TELL S-TEAM YOU'RE COMING, SAM!
GO, SONIC, GO! YAAA--

NOT IF I GET THERE FIRST!
--AAAY?
VRRMM!

SONIC, WH-WHAT HAPPENED?
I... I DON'T KNOW, TAILS!
AND I DON'T CARE...


"... ALL THAT REALLY COUNTS IS THAT ONE OF US GETS THERE IN TIME TO HELP!"
OH, NO! I WAS SO CAUGHT UP IN TRYING TO BEAT SONIC THAT I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT HOW I'D ACTUALLY GET TO THE REFINERY!

WHAT THE--?
JUST A LITTLE WAY TO KEEP IN TOUCH WHILE YOU'RE LEARNING THE ROPES. WHY DON'T YOU TRY PRESSING THE GREEN SWITCH TO YOUR LEFT?

WINGS! YOU'RE A GENIUS!
POP!

THIS IS AWESOME!
SAM'S NEW CAR CAN FLY AND FIGHT FIRES!
Hmph.
BUT WHERE'S SONIC?

AH-HA! THERE HE IS!

"RIGHT ON SCHEDULE."

WHERE'S THE FIRE?

AND FOR THAT MATTER, WHERE'S SAM?

RIGHT HERE, SONIC!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE A LITTLE TOO LATE, THOUGH! TRUE, I DIDN'T REALLY NEED YOUR HELP...

...BUT IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN COOL FOR YOU TO WATCH.

Whoa.

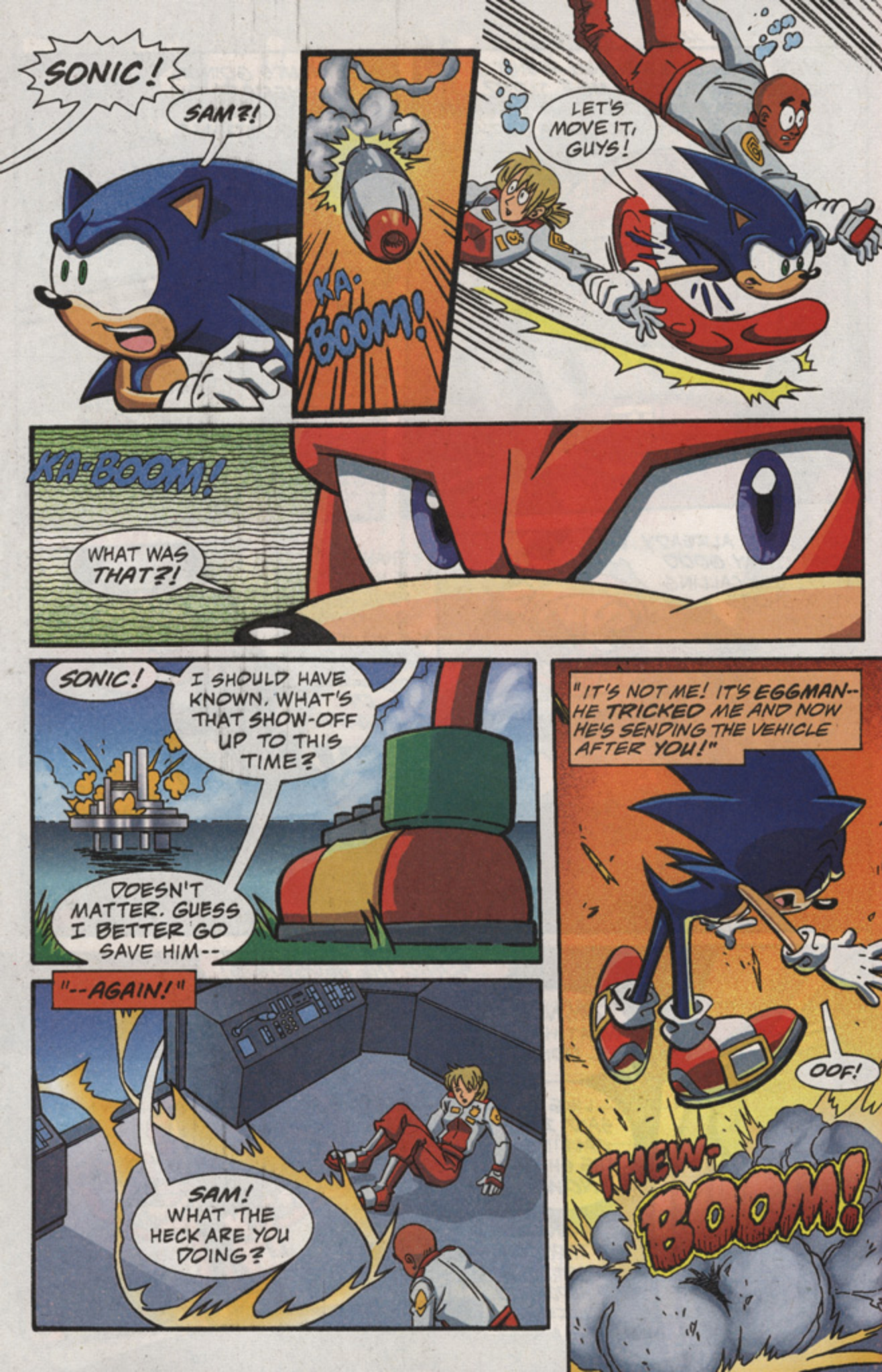
YOU PUT THE WHOLE THING OUT YOURSELF. WOW! THAT NEW RIDE OF YOURS IS PRETTY COOL.

DON'T GO BOOSTING HIS EGO ANY MORE, SONIC.

Wha?

YEAH, WE MIGHT'VE BEEN BETTER OFF WITH THE FIRE.

HEY, WHAT GIVES?! WHY AREN'T THEY CONGRATULATING ME? I DID SAVE THE DAY, AFTER ALL. AM I REALLY ACTING LIKE THAT MUCH OF A JERK?
WAIT A SEC...
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?! THE VEHICLE ISN'T RESPONDING...
ALMOST FEELS LIKE I'M LOSING CONTROL--
CLICK! TIK TAK!
OH, YOU'VE ALREADY LOST IT, MY GOOD BOY! I'M CALLING THE SHOTS NOW!
ROBBIE NICK?!
NOT QUITE.
THANKS TO YOU, I HAVE THAT FOUL HEDGEHOG RIGHT WHERE I WANT HIM! HA HA HA!
DR. EGGMAN!
COMPUTER, ALL WEAPONS ON-LINE. TARGET...
...SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!
OH, NO! WHAT HAVE I DONE?!
LIKE I SAID, I'M CALLING THE SHOTS NOW!
TARGET: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG... LOCKED...


SONIC!
SAM?!
KA-BOOM!
LET'S MOVE IT, GUYS!
KA-BOOM!
WHAT WAS THAT?!
SONIC!
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN. WHAT'S THAT SHOW-OFF UP TO THIS TIME?
DOESN'T MATTER. GUESS I BETTER GO SAVE HIM--
"IT'S NOT ME! IT'S EGGMAN-- HE TRICKED ME AND NOW HE'S SENDING THE VEHICLE AFTER YOU!"
OOF!
THEW-BOOM!
"--AGAIN!"
SAM! WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING?

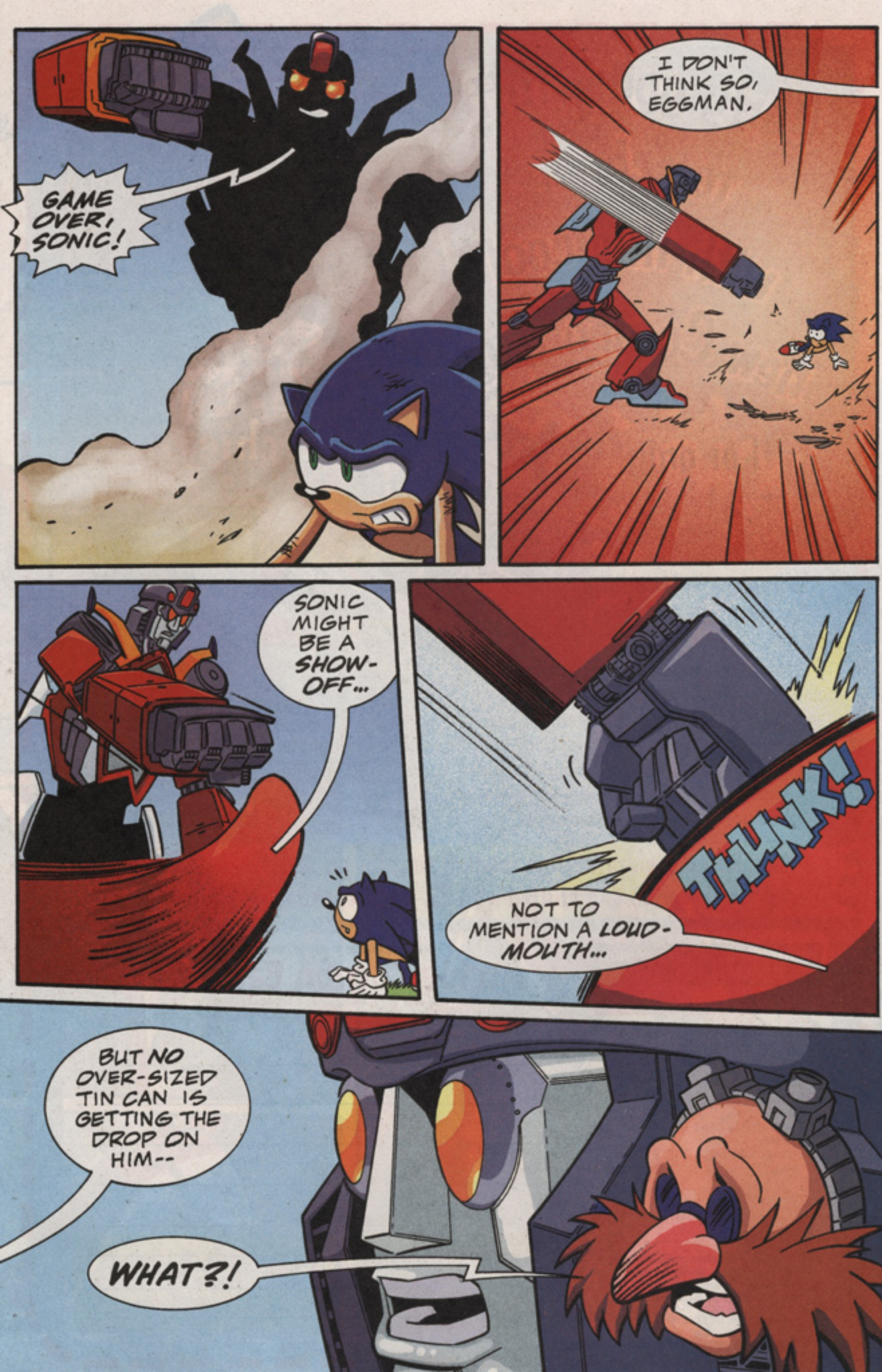
Oooh... NOW WHAT?
FINALLY. THERE'S NOWHERE TO RUN NOW, YOU FLIPPANT LITTLE FOOL!

WHIRR!

CLANG!

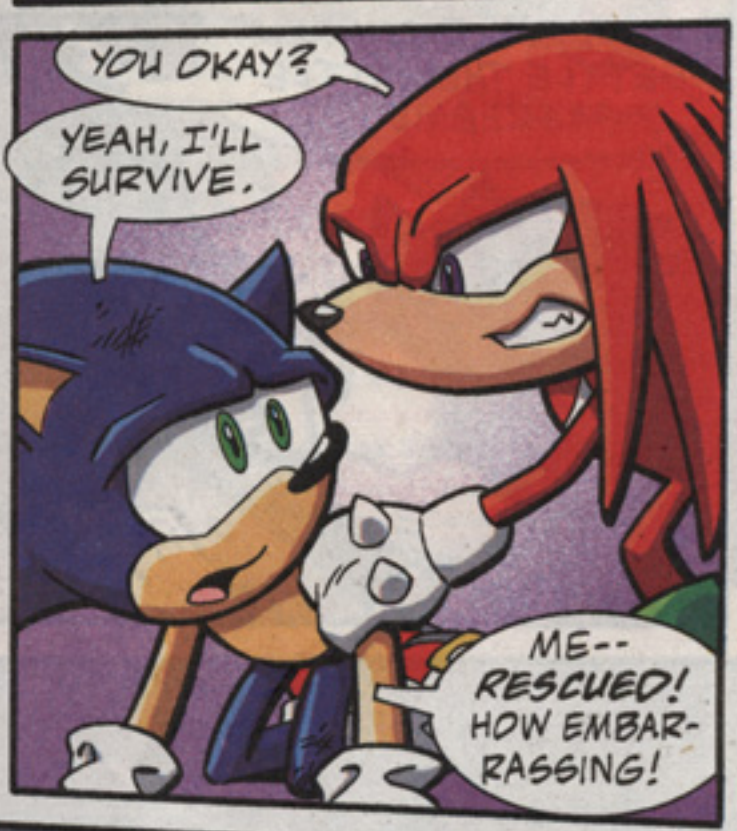
K-CHINK!

OH, I'VE WAITED A VERY, VERY LONG TIME FOR THIS!
THA-THA-THOOOM!


GAME OVER, SONIC!
I DON'T THINK SO, EGGMAN.
SONIC MIGHT BE A SHOW-OFF...
THUNK!
NOT TO MENTION A LOUD-MOUTH...
BUT NO OVER-SIZED TIN CAN IS GETTING THE DROP ON HIM--
WHAT?!

--AT LEAST NOT WHILE I'M STILL AROUND!

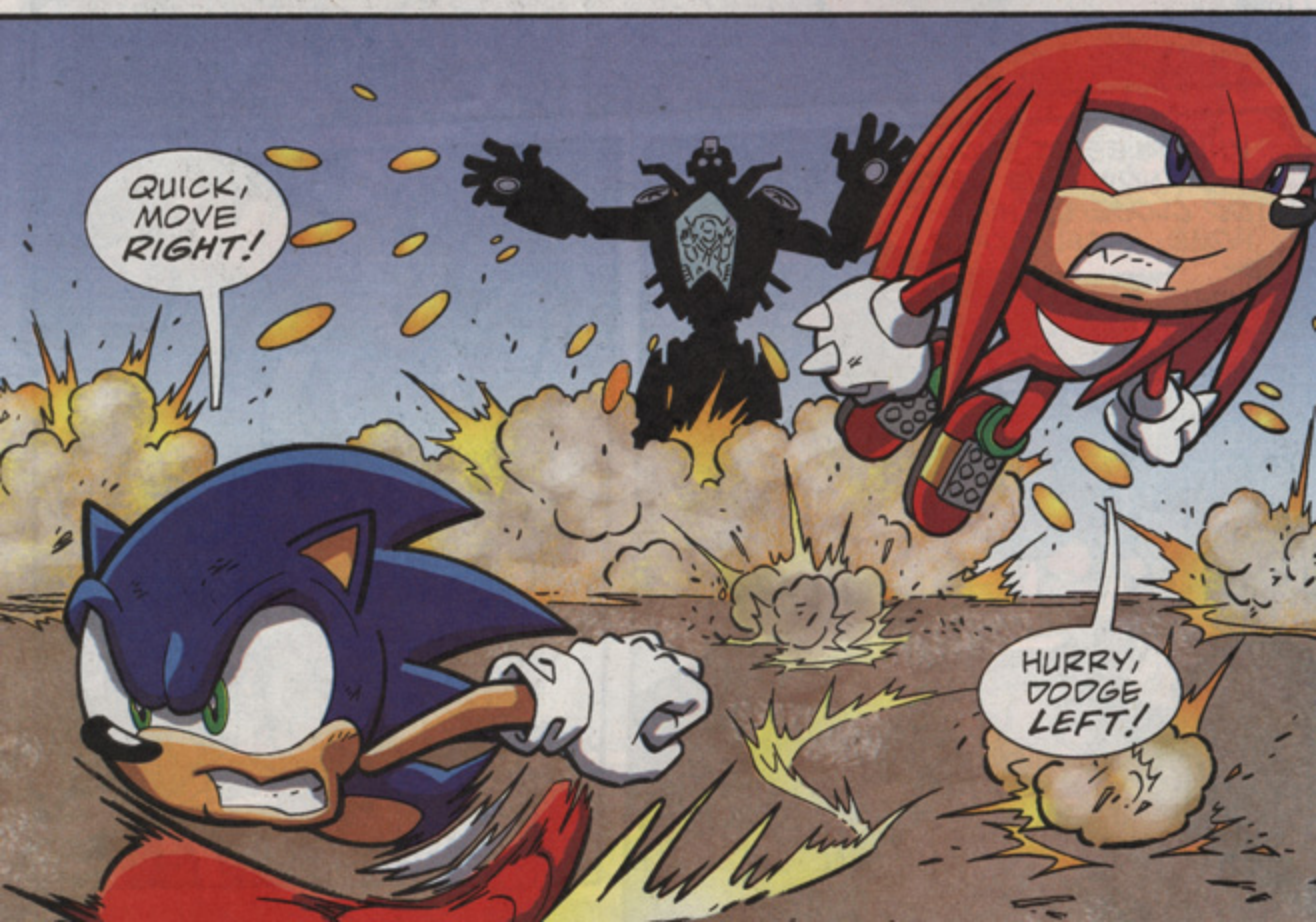
KNUCKLES!



DID YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT THE DANGER BEFORE YOU RUSHED INTO THIS?

Whoa, BUDDY-- I'M JUST HERE TO HELP! YOU SHOULD TRY IT SOME-TIME!

PERHAPS I CAN HELP SETTLE THIS LITTLE DISAGREEMENT?
Uh--
--oh!


QUICK, MOVE RIGHT!
HURRY, DODGE LEFT!

MEANWHILE, THINGS AREN'T GOING TOO WELL FOR OUR OTHER HEROES...

AT LAST, THE PERFECT DESIGN TO STOMP SONIC FLAT!

EGGMAN-POWERED BRILLIANCE! AND IT GETS GREAT MILEAGE, TOO!

CAN YOU PLEASE NOT TALK SO MUCH, DOC?

QUIT EGGING HIM ON AND LET'S TAKE THIS 'BOT OUT!

"EGGING"-- GOOD ONE, KNUX!

UGHHH...

I'LL HIT HIM HIGH, YOU HIT HIM L--

YOU TWO REALLY SHOULD PRACTICE THIS SORT OF THING MORE OFTEN!

--OWWWW!

THIS NEGATOR SIGNAL WILL STOP THE ROBOT COLD-- BUT ONLY FOR A SECOND. AND THERE'S A RISK TO YOU, SAM--

--SINCE IT WILL HAVE TO BROADCAST THROUGH YOUR WRIST RADIO--

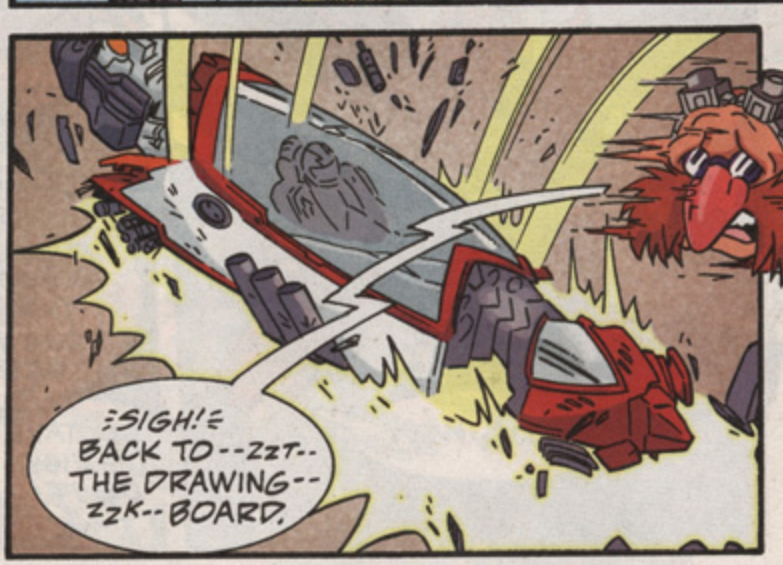
I'LL TAKE THE RISK! DO IT!

YOU'VE RUN YOUR LAST RACE, SONIC!
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!
Ohhh...

THEY'RE PLAYING YOUR SONG, EGG-MAN!

--ZZK-- WHAT?
HE DID IT! NOW, WE JUST HAVE TO FINISH IT...
...TOGETHER!
JUST BE CAREFUL, SAM'S STILL IN THERE!

I'LL GO BOTTOMS-UP!
AND I'LL TAKE IT TOP-DOWN!


:SIGH!: BACK TO--ZZT-- THE DRAWING-- ZZK--BOARD.

GOOD WORK, KNUCKLES. WHEN ARE WE GONNA LEARN TO WIN *FIRST* AND ARGUE *LATER*?

PROBABLY WHEN EGGMAN SHAVES HIS MOUSTACHE!

YOU AND SAM WERE GOING SO *FAST*, IT TOOK AMY AND ME *FOREVER* TO CATCH UP!

SONIC, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

NO WORRIES, TAILS. WE HANDLED THINGS.

I'M SORRY I LOST MY HEAD, EVERYONE. I UNDERSTAND NOW THAT A TEAM CAN'T WORK IF ONE MEMBER BLAMES EVERYONE *ELSE* FOR *HIS* MISTAKES.

I THINK WE *ALL* LEARNED SOMETHING ABOUT THAT TODAY.

NOW, CAN SOMEONE GIVE ME A LIFT BACK TO STATION SQUARE? I THINK MY CAR NEEDS A *SERIOUS* TUNE-UP!

HA HA HA HA HA HA

NEXT IN SONIC X#21, ON SALE JULY, SONIC VS. EGGMAN IN A TOY STORE?!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG#175 AND SONIC ARCHIVES VOLUME #1, 2, & 3 ON SALE NOW!

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